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History

Higher level

Paper 3 – history of the Americas

6 May 2025

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer any three questions.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.

Section 1: Indigenous societies and cultures in the Americas (c750–1500)

1. Compare and contrast the political organization of empires and confederations in pre-Columbian Americas.
2. Examine the influence of nature on the religions of **two** indigenous societies.

Section 2: European explorations and conquests in the Americas (c1492–c1600)

3. “Manco Inca’s treatment by the Spanish was the main reason for his rebellion.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
4. Discuss the importance of conflicting land claims leading to the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494).

Section 3: Colonial government in the New World (1500–1800)

5. Evaluate the economic and political impact of the Bourbon reforms on **one** viceroyalty.
6. Compare and contrast the viceroyalty system in Spanish America and the captaincy system in Portuguese America.

Section 4: Religion in the New World (1500–1800)

7. To what extent were religious orders in Spanish and Portuguese America a significant challenge to government authority?
8. “The social impact of the Great Awakening (c1720–c1760) was more significant than its political impact.” Discuss.

Section 5: Slavery and the New World (1500–1800)

9. To what extent were colonial rivalries the main reason for the establishment of the *asiento* system?
10. Evaluate the impact of **one** slave rebellion on the development of slavery in British America.

Section 6: Independence movements (1763–1830)

11. Compare and contrast the factors that led to the independence of the United States and **one** Latin American country.
12. “Anti-colonialism was the main motive for the declaration of the Monroe Doctrine.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 7: Nation-building and challenges (c1780–c1870)

13. Evaluate the importance of the reasons why **one** *caudillo* came to power in Latin America.
14. To what extent was the Mexican–American War (1846–1848) caused by US interests?

Section 8: US Civil War: causes, course and effects (1840–1877)

15. To what extent was the presidential election of 1860 a major cause of the US Civil War?
16. “Reconstruction was a political success but an economic failure.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 9: The development of modern nations (1865–1929)

17. Evaluate the impact of liberalism in **two** countries of the Americas.
18. “There is little doubt that Wilfrid Laurier successfully ended the conflict between French and British Canadians.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 10: Emergence of the Americas in global affairs (1880–1929)

19. Evaluate the significance of the Spanish–American War (1898) in the Americas.
20. Compare and contrast the impact of the First World War on **two** countries of the Americas.

Section 11: The Mexican Revolution (1884–1940)

- 21. Discuss the effectiveness of Porfirio Diaz’s methods to establish political control.
- 22. Evaluate the achievements of Lázaro Cárdenas between 1934 and 1940.

Section 12: The Great Depression and the Americas (mid 1920s–1939)

- 23. “Criticism of the New Deal came almost entirely from the Republican Party.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
- 24. “The Great Depression had a mostly positive impact on women by 1939.” With reference to **one** country of the Americas, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 13: The Second World War and the Americas (1933–1945)

- 25. “Franklin D Roosevelt’s Good Neighbor policy was mostly beneficial for countries in the Americas.” Discuss.
- 26. Evaluate the impact of conscription during the Second World War in the Americas.

Section 14: Political developments in Latin America (1945–1980)

- 27. To what extent were the economic policies of **two** populist leaders in Latin America successful?
- 28. Evaluate the social policies of a military dictatorship in **one** country in Latin America.

Section 15: Political developments in the United States (1945–1980) and Canada (1945–1982)

- 29. To what extent was Johnson’s Great Society a success?
- 30. To what extent were Nixon’s domestic policies limited by the Watergate scandal (1972–1974)?

Section 16: The Cold War and the Americas (1945–1981)

- 31. Evaluate the importance of the reasons for Eisenhower's application of the New Look policy.
- 32. To what extent were domestic policies affected by the Cold War? Discuss with reference to **one** country of the Americas (except the US).

Section 17: Civil rights and social movements in the Americas post-1945

- 33. Compare and contrast the impact of Dr Martin Luther King Jr and Malcolm X on the African American civil rights movement.
- 34. Evaluate the impact of feminist movements in the Americas after 1945.

Section 18: The Americas (1980–2005)

- 35. Compare and contrast the impact of liberation theology in **two** countries of Latin America.
 - 36. "Political cooperation in the Americas was mostly limited between 1980 and 2005." To what extent do you agree with this statement?
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